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AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1962

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ROMNEY MARSH RURAL DISTRICT, KENT

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector for the Year 1962.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1962.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 4,680 which was an increase of 110 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 82 (38 M. 44 F.) which was an increase of 18 over that of the previous year and the corresponding crude birth rate was 17.51; when adjusted, however, by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and allows comparison with other Districts the crude rate becomes 20.14 and was rather higher than that of 18.0 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

No stillbirths were registered and the stillbirth rate was accordingly nil in comparison with that of 18.1 for England and Wales.

Infant Deaths and Mortality Rate

Two infant deaths were registered due to:-

(i) Prematurity - 4 days

(ii) Acute tracheo-bronchitis - 3 months

The infantile mortality rate was accordingly 24.39 compared with that of 21.4 for England and Wales.

(The above figures are however too small to provide valid comparative rates).

The hard core of causes of Perinatal Mortality (i.e. stillbirths and infant deaths under one week of age) is prematurity, asphyxia and atalectasis, birth injuries and congenital malformations and the most important maternal factor is toxaemia of pregnancy.

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil, as there were no deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion, and signifies the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 52 (31 M. 21 F.) and the corresponding crude death rate was 12.18; after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and affords comparison with other Districts, the adjusted rate was 11.21 in comparison with that of 12.0 for England and Wales.

the majority of the deaths were amongst the aged from natural causes, namely, Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular lesions of the Nervous System; of those there were 37.

Disease of the Coronary Artery of the Heart was the cause of ten of those deaths. The number of deaths was in the following age groups; 3 between 51 and 60 years; 1 between 61 and 70 years; 5 between 71 and 80 years; 1 over 80 years. The majority of deaths were between 71 and 80 years and it is probable that degenerative processes are the most important factor in causation.

Cancer was the cause of 9 deaths. Complete cure could be effected if a diagnosis were made at a reasonably early stage, but delay by patients particularly by the elderly in seeking medical advice is one of the most common factors associated with late diagnosis.

Cancer of the Lung was the cause of 2 deaths - males aged 62 and 73 years. The mortality from Lung Cancer is higher than from the majority of other groups of Cancer which are less difficult to diagnosis and more accessible to surgical and radiological treatment.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there was no exceptional mortality.

The Infectious Diseases

The incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases was minimal throughout the year.

There was no serious infection such as Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Meningitis etc.,

Measles

This was a non-epidemic year, only one case having been notified. The virus, however, is always present amongst children and outbreaks occur when a sufficient number of children has accumulated. Its more serious complications namely Broncho-pneumonia and Acute Otitis Media are not common to-day, but when they do occur, treatment by the Sulpha drugs or Antibiotics is usually specific. Occasionally Acute Encephalitis is seen during an epidemic.

Whooping Cough

Also, only one case of this infection was notified, and the fact that there was no outbreak was in all probability due to the barrier created by preventive vaccination - against a disease which in past years has caused much chronic lung damage and innumerable deaths amongst infants.

Food Poisoning

Three children in the same family were notified as suffering from Salmonella typhi-murium food poisoning but it was not possible to trace the source of the Salmonellae as none of the suspected food was available for bacteriological examination.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia

Five patients suffering from this illness were notified. Including the secondary Pneumonias which are not notifiable, there were four deaths.

There was no other case of notifiable Infectious Disease.

Tuberculosis

No new case of Respiratory or of non-Respiratory Tuberculosis was

notified during the year, a fact which is noteworthy to record.

Also there was no death which is a reflection of the efficacy of modern treatment.

In conclusion, I would state that the Public Health of the District was very satisfactory throughout the year and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your interest and also the staff for their efficiency and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL. M.B., Ch., B., D.P.H.

The Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford,
Kent.

Tel: No: Ashford 1485.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1962

Area:- 31,031 acres

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	...	...	4,680
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books	...	...	1,937
Rateable Value	...	...	62,906
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	255

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Romney Marsh Rural District is essentially agricultural in character and interests, but, as part of the boundary is formed by the sea with wide expanses of sand, there is considerable catering for the large numbers of holiday-makers and weekend trippers who are attracted to the district, and associated there are large holiday-camps and licensed caravan sites. There is negligible unemployment and social conditions are generally satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	Total	M.	F.		Romney Marsh Rural District	England and Wales
Live Births	82	38	44	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	17.51 (Adjusted Rate 20.14)	18.0
(a) Legitimate	75	35	40			
(b) Illegitimate	7	3	4			
Stillbirths	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil	18.1
(a) Legitimate	-	-	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
Total live and stillbirths	82	38	44			
Deaths	57	36	21	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	12.18 (Adjusted Rate 11.2)	11.9
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth. Abortion	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	Nil	Not Available
Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000 live births	24.39	21.4
(a) Legitimate	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.67	
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	
Deaths of Infants Under Four Weeks of Age	1	1	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	11.71	Not Available
(a) Legitimate	1	1	-			
(b) Illegitimate	1	1	-			

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 8.41%

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	9
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	-
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	1
Deaths from Measles	...	-

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	5
Measles	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	3

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ROMNEY MARSH RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1962

ALL CAUSES	Males	Females
	36	21
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	3
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	2
18. Coronary disease, angina	7	3
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1
20. Other heart disease	7	4
21. Other circulatory disease	4	5
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	2	2
24. Bronchitis	2	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	-
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	-
35. Suicide	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1962

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Total Cases on Register			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	3	3
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
25 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
35 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
55 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of patients who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1962 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)		Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination)
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary
1962	24	Nil	24
1961	18	1	18
1960	2	19	2
1959	Nil	2	Nil
1958	1	4	1
1953 - 1957	2	35	2
1948 - 1952	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	47	61	47

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1962 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	NUMBER VACCINATED	NUMBER RE-VACCINATED
Under 1	28	-
1	2	-
2 to 4	9	2
5 to 14	21	21
15 or over	28	44
Total	88	67

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following are the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1962 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health

Year	2 Injections (SALK)	3rd Dose (SALK and ORAL)	4th Dose (SALK and ORAL)	3 ORALS (Complete Course)
1962	-	1	-	3
1961	7	8	-	15
1957 - 1960	6	56	-	3
1943 - 1956	6	13	46	2
1933 - 1942	5	19	-	3
Others	6	30	-	3

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLY

The quantity of water supplied to the area is adequate and none of the supplies is plumbo solvent

(i)	Number of dwellings not supplied by public water mains or other adequate piped supplies	25
(ii)	Number of dwellings in the area	1,954

There were no extensions to water mains during the year, and no action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Work commenced on 2nd January, 1961 on the main drainage scheme covering the coastal area of the district in the parishes of Dymchurch and St. Mary's Bay. This is a two year contract and at the time of writing (June 1963) work has been substantially completed and connecting of properties has been commenced. Visits and work associated with the scheme occupied much time at the expense of routing inspection of other premises.

FOOD (INCLUDING ICE CREAM AND MILK) AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

(i)	(a)	the number of food premises in the area ...	139
	(b)	the number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955	
		(i) Retailers of Ice Cream ...	28
		(ii) Preparation and manufacture of Sausages and Preserved Foods etc. ...	6
	(c)	the number of inspections of registered food premises ...	4
	(d)	the method of disposal of condemned food - to Rural District's refuse tip.	

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Number of inspections of:-

Bakehouses	2
Butchers and meat products manufacturers	2
Catering Establishment and Clubs	3
Dairies	None
Fish (including fried)	2
Licenced Premises	3
Slaughterhouses	None
Stalls, Itinerant Vendors and delivery vans	3
All other Food Premises	9

Number of Informal (including Verbal) Notices Served (Food and Drugs Act - Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 3

Number of Food Premises improved as a result of notices served 3

Inspection of Food and Food-preparing premises

A. Brief particulars of any action taken, including inspection of meat and other foods, slaughterhouses, stalls, vehicles and food-preparing places:-

Generally satisfactory standards of hygiene

(B) Observations on manufacture and sale of ice-cream in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 - 1959.

All ice cream sold within the district is pre-wrapped by large manufacturers outside the district.

(ii) Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 (Part 111)
Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 (Part 111)

No. of registered distributors	14
No. of registered dairies	None

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

17 cwt. Potatoes and 18-lbs. Bacon were condemned during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFTI HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. Houses demolished	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year Persons	Displaced during year Families
In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	None		
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	None		
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	None		
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	None		

B. Unfit Houses Closed	Number
(5) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	2 informally
(6) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	None
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Section (18), Housing Act, 1957	None

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(8) After informal action by local authority	9	-
(9) After formal notice under -		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(10) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

D. Unfit Houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957)		
Position at end of year	No. of houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 48	None	
(b) Under Section 17(2)		
(c) Under Section 46		
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53		

E. Purchase of Houses by agreement	No. of houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year.	None	

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS GRANTS

No Standard Grants were applied for. 6 Discretionary Grants were applied for and 6 grants given, covering 8 houses. Total amount of grant £2,677.

INSPECTIONS - Summary of inspections made:-

Public Health Act, 1936 and Housing Act, 1957

Number of inspections of dwellings re repairs	13
Number of dwellings made fit	9
Number of inspections for purposes of Sections 16/17 Housing Act. (Demolition and Closing Orders) ...	Nil
Number of inspections of clearance areas	Nil
Number of inspections for general survey and assessment ..	Nil

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Housing Subsidies and Standard Grant

Number of inspections in connection with Improvement Grants ...	23
Number of inspections re Certificates as to Remedying of Defects ...	Nil

Housing (general)

Number of inspections re housing applications ...	8

Public Health Act

Number of inspections re:-

Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	6
Aged and Infirm Persons ...	3
Vermin ...	1
Dirty Houses ...	2
Offensive accumulations ...	-
Offensive odours ...	-
Nuisance from Keeping of Animals ...	1

NOTICES SERVED

	Informal	Formal
Public Health Acts	8	Nil
Housing Acts	Nil	Nil

HOUSING

(i)	No. of families on Council's waiting list at 31st Dec.	83
(ii)	No. of Council houses built during the year	Nil
(iii)	No. of Private houses built during year	37

HOLIDAY CAMPS

Name and Addresses of Holiday Camps and number accommodated in each.

Beach Holiday Camp, Dymchurch - 900 plus staff (100 approx)

Golden Sands Holiday Camp, St. Mary's Bay - 350 plus staff (25 approx)

St. Mary's Bay Holiday Camp - 1,200 plus staff (120 approx)

CARAVAN SITES

Name and Addresses of Caravan Sites and Number of Caravans on each site:-

Eastfleet Caravan Site, Dymchurch - 120 vans

Apps Caravan Site, St. Mary's Bay - 50 vans

Jones Caravan Site, Warren Farm, Dymchurch Road, New Romney - 25 vans
4 acres tents.

Pipers Caravan Site, Dymchurch - 450 vans and chalets.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

No. cesspools emptied - 1,531

No. vehicle loads - 2,716

New cesspool emptier ordered for delivery in mid-1963.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS AND DISPOSAL

Vehicle loads .. 668

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health
(including inspection made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	3	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	6	2	-	-
Total	16	5	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork.	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL	Type of Property Non-Agricultural: Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Cl. Houses)	All Other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols.(1) (2) &(3)	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	10	1954	259	2213	256
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	-	36	24	60	25
(b) Survey under the Act	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	-	-	-
3. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections	54	568	105	727	295
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sect.11) which were found to be infested by					
(a) Rats (Major	2	6	11	19	-
(Minor	1	93	7	101	-
(b) Mice (Major	-	1	-	2	-
(Minor	-	1	2	3	-
5. Number of infested properties in (Sect.IV) treated by the L.A.	3	97	20	120	49
6. Total treatment carried out - including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available)		-----	Not available	------	

RODENT CONTROL (CONTD.)	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Cl. Houses)	Types of Property Non-Agricultural All Other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	Agricultural
7. Number of notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
9. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
10. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

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